## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit Not Known Examiner Not Known

In Re:

Ross W. Callon et al.

Case:

IBN.5202C1

Serial No.:

NA

Filed:

11/04/2003

Subject:

Apparatus and Method for Forwarding Encapsulated Data Packets on a Network Having Multiple Links Between Nodes

To the Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **Preliminary Amendment**

Dear Sir,

## In the specification:

Please add the section entitled "Cross-Reference to Related Documents" beginning at line 4 as follows:

The present application is a continuation application of copending patent application serial number 09/444,921, which was filed on November 24, 1999, and which is incorporated herein in its entirety.

If there are any fees due beyond any fees paid with the present application and amendment, such fees are authorized to be deducted from deposit account 50-0534.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ross W. Callon et/al.

Donald R. Boys

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